

REMARKS

The Office Action dated December 8, 2009 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments and the following remarks are being submitted as a supplemental complete response to the response filed on March 8, 2010, which is incorporated by reference herein.

Claims 1-5 are pending in this application. By this amendment, Claim 3 has been cancelled, and Claim 4 has been withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner because it was directed to non-elected subject matter. Claim 1 has been amended. Support for the amendment to Claim 1 can be found in the originally-filed specification at 6:9-13, 21:12-23, and Claim 3. Thus, Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 are pending in this application. Applicants submit that no new matter is added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112

For the reasons explained in the March 8, 2010 response, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Shishido (WO 03/027521, hereinafter "Shishido"); Claims 2 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shishido in view of Fujinaka (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0113045, hereinafter "Fujinaka"); and Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shishido in view of Obara (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0202722, hereinafter "Obara"). Applicants

respectfully traverse the rejections for at least the following additional reason(s) beyond those explained in the March 8, 2010 response.

Shishido, Fujinaka, and Obara do not teach or disclose “an outside surface which is positioned adjacent to the inner peripheral surface, wherein an oil repellent is applied to the outside surface of the seal portion, an outer peripheral edge of the outside surface comprises a machined surface formed by machining to remove a resin gate portion, wherein the outside surface of the seal portion is a molded surface except for the machined surface, the molded surface of the outside surface has a first oil repellency, and the machined surface of the outside surface has a second oil repellency, wherein the first oil repellency is greater than the second oil repellency,” as recited in Claim 1 (emphasis added).

As such, Applicants respectfully submit Claim 1 is not anticipated or rendered obvious by the cited art. Claims 2 and 5 depend from independent Claim 1. Accordingly, these dependent claims should be deemed allowable for the same reasons Claim 1 is allowable, as well as for the additional subject matter recited therein. Claim 3 has been cancelled, rendering its rejection moot.

Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below to schedule a personal or telephone interview to discuss any remaining issues.

In the event that this paper is not being timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account Number 01-2300, referencing Docket Number 100725-00176.

Respectfully submitted,



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